

NOTE: When feasible, TRSB meetings are videotaped. These meeting minutes reflect only a basic summary of the meeting topics, discussion, and action. The Vimeo recording of this meeting can be viewed at: <https://vimeo.com/644435429>

Materials presented at the board meeting may be viewed at:

https://trsdpublic.timberlane.net/trsb/_layouts/15/start.aspx#/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?RootFolder=%2Ftrsb%2FShared%20Documents%2FSCHOOL%20BOARD%20MEETING%20AGENDA%20MATERIALS%2F2021%2D22%2F11%209%2021%20School%20Board%20Meeting&FolderCTID=0x0120004312551B46136E4BA51A2C05822A071C&View=%7BD71C77CA%2D529B%2D49D7%2D8C91%2DE62575BBB707%7D

TIMBERLANE REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Regular Business Meeting
November 9, 2021
7:15PM

Performing Arts Center
40 Greenough Road
Plaistow, NH

Call to Order

Chairman Farah opened the November 9th, 2021 meeting of the Timberlane Regional School Board to order at 7:15PM and took roll call.

Board Members Present

Kimberly Farah, Steven Finnegan, Amy Gentile, Barbara Kiszka, and Katie Knutsen,

Seated at the Board Table

Dr. Brian Cochrane, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Christopher Kellan, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (00:2:11)

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| MOTION: Mrs. Kiszka motioned to accept the TRSB public meeting minutes of October 21st, 2021; seconded by Mr. Finnegan. The motion passed 5-0-0. |
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DELEGATES & INDIVIDUALS (00:02:32)

Dr. Farah read a statement regarding the rules of the meeting.

Oswaldo Hernandez, of Atkinson, spoke to the Board wearing a shirt emblazoned with “Unmasked, Unmuzzled, Unvaccinated, Unafraid”. He wants to know when masks are going to come off and when children will start to be educated. He blames the Board for creating a whole generation of kids who are fearful of authority. He asked if the Board was the new Nazi party, and they were the Jews. He wants to make sure everyone is voted off the Board.

David Kiley, of Atkinson, went over parts of the NH Constitution, again. He stated that he “served” an affidavit to the Board prior to the start of the meeting and described it as public notice and demand for the Board’s resignation. He also claimed to be giving notice of trespass of his constitutional rights as a NH citizen. He claims that the Board is exercising undelegated powers. He described this as criminal and fraudulent. He said the Board had no right to put the unmasked in a different section of the seats.

Stefanie Dube, of Danville, also came to speak about what she perceives as harming the children. She claims the Board does not have the authority to mask the children. She stated that “every single one

of you up there, is impeding parents' ability to protect their children to the best of their ability, in the interests of safety." She said the science doesn't back that. She said it's shameful and more and more parents will come to the meetings because the Board is injuring the children.

Laura Roy, of Plaistow, wanted clarity on the indoor mask decision matrix adopted on August 19th. She believes that masks should currently be optional in some of the district schools. She believes that the district is not using the matrix correctly and wants to know why masks aren't optional. She asked the Board to consider the students mental health.

Nolan Pelletier, of Plaistow, started off with "Different week, same speech." He stated he is going to come every week until the Board lets his daughter breath normally. He said the Board is not doing anything and the parents are treated like cattle. He said he is ashamed to live in this town.

Jessica Pelletier, also of Plaistow, said the parents are there every week and it doesn't feel like the Board is hearing their voices. They would like some feedback as to why nothing is changing.

HANNAFORD DONATION (00:20:15)

The Timberlane Regional Middle School received a check for \$522.00 representing the funds raised by the community for that school during the 2021 Hannaford Helps Schools Program.

MOTION: Mrs. Kiszka motioned to accept the \$522 from Hannaford Helps with gratitude; seconded by Mrs. Knutsen. The motion passed 5-0-0.

AUDIT FINDINGS UPDATE (00:20:50)

The Board reviewed the Executive Summary provided by CFO Maria Watkins, relative to the corrections made as a result of the audit. Mrs. Kiszka thanked Mrs. Watkins for all the work she has done. Dr. Farah agreed.

BUDGET TRANSFER REQUEST (00:22:42)

MOTION: Mrs. Kiszka motioned to accept this budget transfer request for \$200K dated 11/9/2021 from the CFO; seconded by Mrs. Knutsen. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Finnegan took a few moments to address those parents who spoke tonight. He wanted them to understand his perspective on their comments before they left the meeting.

SAU LOGO & LETTERHEAD DESIGN STUEDENT RECOGNITION (00:27:26)

Kendall Morrill and Josh Friel described the assignment given in their marketing class. It started as a single effort and toward the end, Kendall and Josh incorporated their ideas and worked together to bring forth their final product. Mr. Kellan thanked both students and told them they'd be receiving a letter of thanks on the new letterhead, a T-shirt with the new logo on it and a \$100 Amazon gift card.

DISTANCE LEARNING PLANS FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER (00:31:07)

The Board reviewed the executive summary provided in the agenda packet. Board members asked some specific questions that were answered by Mr. Kellan. Ms. Gentile complimented the plan.

MOTION: Mr. Finnegan motioned to approve the Distance Learning Plan; seconded by Ms.

Gentile. The motion passed 5-0-0.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT (00:34:56)

The Board reviewed the Executive summary provided by Mr. Fantasia relative to the grant opportunity.

MOTION: Mr. Finnegan motioned to certify the Superintendent, the Assistant Superintendent and the CFO as the Applicants of Authority for the State of NH Department of Natural and Cultural Resources-Division of Parks and Recreation, Land and Water Conservation Fund grant submission; seconded by Mrs. Knutsen. The motion passed 4-1-0 (Mrs. Kiszka opposed).

Dr. Cochrane explained that there were many factors to this grant, and it would take some time to determine if this is something the district can do. He certainly doesn't think the December submission date is realistic and possibly, they would have to file in either the spring or next fall. There are many questions that need to be answered to determine if this grant is a good match for the district or not. Mrs. Kiszka was against a December filing given a number of factors. Dr. Farah stated that even if the district were awarded the grant, the district would not have to accept it.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER STIPENDS (00:44:12)

The Board reviewed the executive summary and discussed that the district currently is paying substitutes less than other districts in the area. The administration feels that the district might be able to get more people if the wages were more competitive. There are only 42 subs working now and pre-pandemic, there were 67 working. The Board asked whether this would cause any budget issues. Mrs. Watkins stated that it very well could run that line over budget. Mrs. Watkins will review this with Ms. O'Gara of HR and attempt to quantify a budget number. Mr. Finnegan would also like information on how many substitutes and their length of stay? How many are substituting more than five days at a time?

MOTION: Mrs. Kiszka motioned to approve the new substitute rate as documented; seconded by Mrs. Knutsen. The motion passed 5-0-0.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT (00:51:58)

Nothing to report.

PERSONNEL REPORT (00:52:09)

MOTION: Mrs. Kiszka motioned to accept the nomination of Jamie Blanchette (Math Interventionist, TRMS); seconded by Mr. Finnegan. The motion passed 5-0-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (00:52:56)

Ms. Gentile gave an update on the C&I committee who is looking to have Mark Pederson & Kelly Brooks attend an upcoming meeting. They have new curriculum in several areas to present. Ms. Gentile inquired as to whether the Board preferred to receive all of that at once or presented over time. Dr. Farah advised that if there is something to review, let the Superintendent know and when they meet to discuss the agenda, they can see how much they have time for or not.

Mr. Finnegan stated that the policy committee met last week. There are three policies ready to come to the board for a first read.

Dr. Farah stated that Union negotiations continue.

MOTION: Mr. Finnegan motioned to go into non-public under 91-A:3, Paragraph II ((a) The dismissal, promotion or compensation or disciplining of any public employee, (c) matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, and (i) consideration of matters relating to preparation for and the carrying out of emergency preparations to prevent widespread injury or loss of life ; seconded by Mrs. Kiszka. The motion passed 5-0-0.

The Board was polled:

Farah – Yes Finnegan - Yes Gentile – Yes Kiszka – Yes Knutsen – Yes

The motion carried 5-0-0 and the Board entered nonpublic session at 8:15PM.

MOTION: Mrs. Kiszka motioned to exit the non-public meeting; seconded by Ms. Gentile. The motion passed 5-0-0.

The Board was polled:

Farah – Yes Finnegan - Yes Gentile – Yes Kiszka – Yes Knutsen – Yes

The motion carried 5-0-0 and the board re-entered public session at 9:15PM.

MOTION: Mr. Finnegan motioned to seal the non-public meeting minutes by reason that divulgence would likely affect adversely the reputation of someone other than a member of the board; seconded by Mrs. Knutsen. The motion passed 5-0-0.

The Board was polled:

Farah – Yes Finnegan - Yes Gentile – Yes Kiszka – Yes Knutsen – Yes

With no other business before the board, Chairman Farah adjourned the meeting at 9:17PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Lancaster
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Board on 11/18/21.